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#3

Atty Dkt No. 7610-0040.20

COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR CONTINUATION-IN-PART APPLICATION

AS A BELOW-NAMED INVENTOR, I HEREBY DECLARE THAT:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if more than one name is listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TRACKING CONDITIONS IN AN ASSAY, the specification of which

 is attached hereto
X was filed on December 28, 2001 and assigned Serial No.10/040,925

I HAVE REVIEWED AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CLAIMS, AS AMENDED BY ANY AMENDMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE.

I acknowledge and understand that I am an individual who has a duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of the claims of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §§ 1.56(a) and (b) which state:

"(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

- (i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or
- (ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability."

I do not know and do not believe this invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my or our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my or our invention thereof or more than one year prior to said application. This invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application. This invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on any application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than one year prior to this application.

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) listed below, and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) and (b) set forth above which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application Serial No.: 09/751,231

Filing Date: December 29, 2000

Status (patented, pending, abandoned): Pending

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agents to prosecute that application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and to file, to prosecute and to transact all business in connection with all patent applications directed to the invention:

Dianne E. Reed, Reg. No. 31,292
Shelley P. Eberle, Reg. No. 31,411
J. Elin Hartrum, Reg. No. 43,663
Mark A. Wilson, Reg. No. 43,275
Louis L. Wu, Reg. No. 44,413
Cynthia R. Moore, Reg. No. 46,086
(customer No. 23980)

Address all correspondence to: Louis L. Wu at

REED & ASSOCIATES
800 Menlo Avenue, Suite 210
Menlo Park, California 94025

Address all telephone calls to: Louis L. Wu at (650) 330-0900.

This appointment, including the right to delegate this appointment, shall also apply to the same extent to any proceedings established by the Patent Cooperation Treaty.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

First Joint or Sole inventor:

Signature: Richard N. Ellson

Date: March 14, 2002

Full Name Inventor: Richard N. Ellson

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence: Palo Alto, California

Post Office Address: 513 El Capitan Place, Palo Alto, California 94306

Second Joint inventor:

Signature: Mitchell W. Mutz

Date: March 14, 2002

Full Name Inventor: Mitchell W. Mutz

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence: Palo Alto, California

Post Office Address: 2298 Oberlin St., Palo Alto, California 94306

Third Joint inventor:

Signature: David L. Harris

Date: 3/14/2002

Full Name of Inventor: David L. Harris

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence: Mountain View, California

Post Office Address: 505 Cypress Point Drive, #141, Mountain View, California 94043



Applicant or Patentee: Richard N. Ellison, Mitchell W. Mutz and David L. Harris

Serial or Patent No.: 10/040,925

Filed or Issued: December 28, 2001

Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TRACKING CONDITIONS IN AN ASSAY

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) & 1.27(c))--SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am:

- the owner of the small business concern identified below:
 an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: Picoliter Inc.
 ADDRESS OF CONCERN: 231 S. Whisman Road, Mountain View, California 94041-1522

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 37 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the person employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention entitled DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TRACKING CONDITIONS IN AN ASSAY by inventors Richard N. Ellison, Mitchell W. Mutz and David L. Harris described in: the specification filed herewith.

- application serial no. 10/040,925 filed December 28, 2001
 patent no. , issued .

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

NAME:

ADDRESS:

INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NAME:

ADDRESS:

INDIVIDUAL SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

SIGNATURE  DATE: March 14, 2002

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING:

TITLE IN ORGANIZATION OF PERSON SIGNING: CEO

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: 231 S. Whisman Road, Mountain View, California 94041-1522